

Serial No.: 10/082,536

REMARKS

These remarks follow the order of the paragraphs of the office action. Relevant portions of the office action are shown indented and italicized. Claims 1-3, 7-25, 30,42 and renumbered claims 46-47 remain in the application.

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

I. Claims 1-3, 7-25, 30,42 and 47-48, drawn to routing data, classified in class 707, subclass 4.

II. Claims 4-6, drawn to... ..

In response, applicants respectfully state that applicants choose claims of group 1. This includes claims 1-3, 7-25, 30,42 and renumbered claims 46-47.

Claim Rejections -35 U.S.C. 112

15. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112: The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

16. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

17. Claim 4 recites the Limitation combination of said criteria" in line 14, page 23. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

In response, applicants respectfully state that claim 4 is amended to use the word 'criterion' rather than the word 'criteria'. This provides the antecedent basis and claim 4 is allowable.

18. Claim 14 recites the limitation 'any combination of the above' in line 13, page 25. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

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In response, applicants respectfully state that claim 14 is amended to use the words 'any combination of the above criterion', rather than the words 'any combination of the above'. This provides the antecedent basis and claim 14 is allowable.

19. Claim 20 recites the limitation "any combination of the above criteria" in line 12, page 26. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

In response, applicants respectfully state that the office action is assumed to be referring to claim 21 not claim 20. Claim 21 is amended to use the word 'criterion' rather than the word 'criteria'. This provides the antecedent basis and claim 20 is allowable.

20. Claims 32 and 33 recite the limitation 'comprising at least one step taken from a group of steps including in lines 3-4, 19-20, page 30. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

In response, applicants respectfully state that claims 32 and 33 are withdrawn because of the restriction of the claims. It is believed that any amendment to these claims will be due when and if these claims are reconsidered.

21.

Claim Objections

22. Claims 46-48 are objected to because of the following informalities: There is no claim 45. Appropriate correction is required.

In response, applicants respectfully state that claims 46-48 are renumbered claims 45-47 respectively. This includes old claim 46 which is now claim 45 and is withdrawn, and currently amended claims old claims 47-48 which are now claims 46-47.

It is anticipated that this amendment brings the application to allowance of claims 1-3, 7-25, 30, 42 and renumbered claims 46-47. Favorable action is respectfully solicited. If any rejections or objections remain, please call the undersigned.

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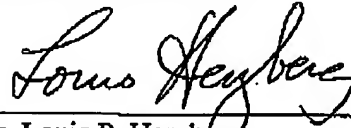
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Respectfully submitted,

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